

THE SPECIES OF THE GORYTINE GENUS
TRICHOGORYTES (HYMENOPTERA,
SPHECIDAE).

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The Gorytine wasps have several very poorly known genera in the Nearctic Region. The genus *Trichogorytes* is one of the smaller and least known of these groups.

TRICHOGORYTES Rohwer.

Harpactus Ashmead, Ent. News, X, p. 10 (1899); [*nec* Shuckard, 1837].—Ashmead, Canad. Entom., XXXI, pp. 324, 328 (1899); [in part, *nec* Shuckard].

Trichogorytes Rohwer, Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., XLI, p. 469 (1912).—Rohwer, Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., LIX, p. 412 (1921).—Pate, Mem. Amer. Ent. Soc., no. 9, p. 66 (1937).

Gorytes (*Gorytes*) Maidl & Klima, Hymen. Catal., pt. 8, p. 58 (1939); [in part, *nec* Latreille].

Gorytes (*Trichogorytes*) Maidl & Klima, Hymen. Catal., pt. 8, p. 114 (1939).

GENOTYPE: *Trichogorytes argenteopilosus* Rohwer, 1912. (Monobasic and by original designation.)

The heavy white tomentum of the head and thorax readily distinguishes *Trichogorytes* from all other Nearctic Gorytine wasps with the exception of *Hapalomellinus* and some species of *Dienoplus*. However, the stockier, more robust build, sessile abdomen, parallel inner eye orbits and well-developed episternal suture and episternaulus differentiate *Trichogorytes* from *Hapalomellinus*, and the lack of sternauli will separate it from *Dienoplus*.

Generic Characters.—Moderate-sized forms, with the head, thorax and legs clothed with a dense vestiture of appressed white tomentum, and the abdominal tergites with tomentose white fasciae. Head with face broad, the inner orbits straight, parallel or subparallel. Ocelli normal, rather large, the postocellar line longer than the ocellocular distance. Occipital carina almost a complete circle in extent, but not directed toward nor attaining the hypostomal carinule. Antennae situated toward middle of face; scapes short, thick; flagellum elongate, simple, not clavate. Mandibles large, heavy, apices dentate.

Thorax with pronotum short, ecarinate; mesonotum, axillae, scutellum and postscutellum simple; mesonotal laminae small.

Mesopleura with episternal suture present, distinct, running obliquely downward from below tegulae; episternauli present; sternauli absent; omauli absent or very indistinct. Mesosternum rounded, immarginate, ecarinate anteriorly. Propodeum finely sculptured or punctate at best; dorsal face with a trigonal enclosure; lateral carinae and stigmal grooves absent.

Fore wings with the recurrent veins received well within the second submarginal cell. Hind wings with cubitus arising distinctly beyond the short, straight transverse median vein.

Legs simple. Tarsi with last segment abruptly swollen. Fore tarsi of females with a pecten of very long, flattened, spatulate, flexible bristles. Middle and hind tarsal segments with apical whorls of strong spines. Middle tibiae with two calcaria. Middle and hind tibiae with a few spines on outer faces.

Abdomen sessile, stoutly fusiform, not constricted between the segments, and impunctate or at best finely acupunctate. Females with a flat trigonal pygidial area on last tergite.

Trichogorytes is known at present from the female sex only. But I do not believe that the discovery of the males will cause us to modify materially our concept of the genus.

Distribution.—The genus *Trichogorytes* is a small precinctive Nearctic group apparently confined to the xeric areas of the southwestern United States. At present only two species are known which may be referred to it.

Trichogorytes cockerelli (Ashmead).

Harpactus cockerelli Ashmead, Ent. News, X, p. 10 (1899); [♀; Mesilla Park, N. M.].—Ashmead, Canad. Entom., XXXI, p. 328 (1899).

Gorytes (*Gorytes*) *cockerelli* Maidl & Klima, Hymen. Catal., pt. 8, p. 58 (1939); [with *Gorytes cockerelli* Rohwer, 1909 [= *Lestiphorus cockerelli* (Roh.)] recorded as a synonym!].

Type.—♀; Mesilla Park, Dona Ana County, New Mexico. Elevation, 3865 ft. June 9, 1898. (T. D. A. Cockerell.) [United States National Museum, Cat. no. 5071.]

The present species is clothed with a silvery tomentum which, however, is not as dense as that of *argenteopilosus*. Moreover, the pygidial area of *cockerelli* is glabrous, polite, and has only a few scattered punctures, while the propodeum has the trigonal enclosure, the posterior face and the upper lateral angles finely rugulate, and the omaulus on the mesopleura, although obsolescent, is faintly indicated.

This species is still known only from a unique female taken in southern New Mexico.

Trichogorytes argenteopilosus Rohwer.

Trichogorytes argenteopilosus Rohwer, Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., XLI, p. 470 (1912); [♀; "Hot Springs, Arkansas"].

Gorytes (Trichogorytes) argenteopilosus Maidl & Klima, Hymen. Catal., pt. 8, p. 114 (1939).

Type.—♀; Castle Creek Hot Springs (25 miles east of Wickenburg), Yavapai County, Arizona. Elevation, 1970 ft. June 26, 1901. (E. A. Schwarz and H. S. Barber.) [United States National Museum, cat. no. 14169.]

The head and thorax of *argenteopilosus* are densely and heavily clad with strongly appressed white tomentum, while the abdomen has similar pubescent bands on all the tergites, the basal halves of which are glabrous. The pygidial area of the present species is likewise pubescent and finely punctate throughout. The mesopleura of *argenteopilosus* lack any trace of an omalus and the propodeum has the trigonal enclosure and the posterior and lateral faces merely finely punctate.

This species is also known from only a unique female, which Rohwer incorrectly recorded from Hot Springs, Arkansas. However, Mr. H. S. Barber, who collected the specimen, has informed me that it was taken at Castle Creek Hot Springs in Arizona, and I take this opportunity to rectify the error.